

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Andrew Melick on October 20, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 2, 4, 10, 15-23 and 25: (cancelled)

Claim 5, line 2: after "claim" delete "2 or"

Claim 6, line 2: after "claim" delete "2 or"

Claim 8, line 2: after "claim" delete "2 or"

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art, Yoshinori et al. (JP 2002-282703 cited in previous office actions) teach a photocatalyst sheet (see figure 1) comprising; a substrate (support layer 2) made of polyester (a synthetic and inorganic fiber) or nylon (an inorganic fiber) (paragraph [0021] of translation), a coated layer made of a polyvinyl chloride resin coated on both sides of said substrate (see paragraphs [0006-0007]), and a photocatalyst-containing layer (figure 1, photocatalyst grain 1) coated on at least one side of said coated layer (and therefore the photocatalysts are fairly considered part of the coated layer), characterized in that said photocatalyst-containing layer contains

polyvinyl chloride resin and acrylic resin (paragraphs [0006-0007]) and PTFE resin (a fluorocarbon resin - therefore, because the photocatalysts are fairly considered part of the coated layer the coated layer contains a fluorocarbon resin), and apatite-coated photocatalyst particles (see paragraph [0013]), the ratio of said apatite-coated photocatalyst particles to said photocatalyst-containing layer is 10-40 weight % (paragraph [0011]).

Independent claims 3 and 26 define over the closest prior art, and the prior art as a whole in requiring that the coated layer contains PTFE on both sides of the substrate and the photocatalyst containing layer contains an FEP polymer. Yoshinori et al. teach a single layer which contains PTFE and the catalyst. There is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to modify the sheet of Yoshinori et al. to contain an additional layer containing catalysts and a FEP polymer in combination with the other features of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas P. D'Aniello whose telephone number is (571)270-3635. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8am to 5pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jessica Ward can be reached on (571) 272-1223. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. P. D./
Examiner, Art Unit 1735

/Jessica L. Ward/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1735